

**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION recognizing Zion United Church
of Christ for one hundred fifty years of service to their community.

LANDSKE

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



Introduced

First Regular Session 116th General Assembly (2009)

**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION recognizing Zion United Church of Christ for one hundred fifty years of service to their community.

Whereas, Zion United Church of Christ has proudly "stood watch over the prairie" in Dyer, Indiana for the past one hundred fifty years. They will celebrate their legacy with an anniversary program and dinner on Sunday, August 23, 2009;

Whereas, Twenty-three families came together in the fall of 1858 to establish a church on Evangelical principles. Of the twenty-three original families, it is believed that descendants of twelve are still members of the existing congregation;

Whereas, The founding families purchased a five-acre lot for fifty dollars from Otto Buehre's farm, who was also one of the founding members of the congregation. The first church building measured twelve hundred square feet and included the pastor's living area;

Whereas, The church was officially organized on August 31, 1859 and named German United Evangelical Zion Church. Services were held in German until 1952 when the congregation voted to hold all services in English;



Whereas, Under the Leadership of Reverend Fred Grosse, the first church choir was organized during his tenure from 1899 to 1907. In addition, Rev. Grosse promoted the installation of art glass windows and left a weather vane atop the steeple which still overlooks the surrounding farmlands;

Whereas, In 1954 a great tradition was born when the Zion United Church of Christ Brotherhood served its first homemade Sausage and Pancake Supper to three hundred guests;

Whereas, Zion has continued serving their secret recipe to as many as eight hundred guests year after year. The fifty-fifth Zion Church Pancake and Sausage Supper was served on February 24, 2009;

Whereas, In 1957, the current church name was adopted, Zion United Church of Christ. A groundbreaking ceremony was held in 1961 for the education building and it was officially dedicated on May 17, 1964. Since its opening forty-five years ago; it continues to be a conduit of Christian teaching and fellowship;

Whereas, Members of the church joined together to help fill a community need by opening Gleaners, a non-profit resale store. Gleaners continues to serve the community and receives generous support from Zion UCC;

Whereas, In addition, Zion UCC expanded its mission work by sending church members to Guatemala. The church is currently planning a mission trip to assist families in the New Orleans area;

Whereas, The current pastor, Reverend Clifford DiMascio, was accepted into the church during a Service of Installation on October 12, 2008. Though smaller in numbers than in past years, the Zion UCC still has a strong heart and looks after the betterment of their community; and



Whereas, Pastor Cliff and the congregation of UCC look to the future with anticipation of continuing to serve the community carrying a message of God's hope and love. They are dedicated to fulfilling the church mission "to develop their gifts and to respond to Christ's call to love one another as Christ loved us": Therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, the House of Representatives concurring:

- 1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly hereby
- 2 recognizes Zion United Church of Christ for their exemplary dedication
- 3 and service to their community in the glory of God for the past one
- 4 hundred fifty years.
- 5 SECTION 2. That the Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed to
- 6 transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Zion United Church of Christ.

